

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	Group Art Unit: To be assigned
)	
Vann and Lehto)	Examiner: To be assigned
)	
Serial No.: To be assigned)	Confirmation Number: To be assigned
)	
Filed: June 24, 2003 (herewith))	
)	
For: BEAD DISPENSING SYSTEM)	
)	
)	
)	
)	
)	
)	
)	

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on</p> <p align="center"><u>June 24, 2003</u></p> <p align="center">(Date of Deposit)</p> <p align="center"><u>Deborah A. Mojarrro</u></p> <p align="center">Name of Depositing Party</p> <p align="center"><u>[Signature]</u></p> <p align="center">Signature of Depositing Party</p> <p align="center">Express Mail No.: <u>EL 897 624 445 US</u></p>

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of this continuation application, applicants respectfully request to amend the application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-50 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 51-64 as follows:

- 51. (New) An apparatus for biological reactions, comprising:
- a substrate-holding area;
 - a substrate disposed in a seated position on said substrate-holding area;
 - an array of wells formed in said substrate;
 - one or more components for real-time fluorescence-based measurements of nucleic acid amplification products held in at least some of said wells;